

estimated 1½ million Americans in attendance.

Frederick Douglass described Grant as “a man too broad for prejudice, too humane to despise the humblest, too great to be small at any point.” Douglass saw in Grant “a protector” to freed Blacks, “a friend” to Indians, “a brother” to vanquished foes, and “a savior” for our imperiled Nation.

Yet progressive historians, a partisan press, and political enemies tarnished his record from the beginning. They have maligned him as a drunk and a butcher and a bumbling western rube who was ill-suited to politics and probably corrupt at that. This is an ahistorical slander against a great American.

As a deeply honest man and a Washington outsider, Grant perhaps wasn’t always astute in spotting the unscrupulous swindlers and grifters attracted to our capital then as now. As President, he trusted some who didn’t deserve that trust. His critics have exaggerated this guilelessness as a mortal sin, using dishonesty of others to besmirch the record of a good and great man. But Douglas was right; Grant was “a savior” of this Republic, and his few failings pale in comparison to his extraordinary achievements. And Grant’s countrymen agreed, electing him twice by historic landslides.

I have four photos hanging on the wall of my Senate office, photos of great statesmen who saved the West in our hour of crisis: Abraham Lincoln, Winston Churchill, Ronald Reagan, and U.S. Grant. Throughout his life, U.S. Grant embodied a profound patriotism and selflessness that our Nation should remember with awe and reverence. On this bicentenary of his birth, we should restore him to the pantheon of American heroes, first among Americans.

TRIBUTE TO LIEUTENANT KRISTEN TRINDLE

Madam President, America’s retreat from Afghanistan was a dark chapter for our country. We all remember the terrible scenes of desperate people clinging to the undersides of planes, of Taliban thugs beating innocent people, and most tragically of all, the 13 flag-draped remains of brave American service men and women killed by an ISIS suicide bomb. We will never forget those tragic events. They are grim reminders about the wages of weakness in Washington.

But for every act of cowardice in Washington, for every act of evil by our enemies, there was an act of even greater bravery by our troops. As they always do, America’s heroes redeem even the most forlorn missions through extraordinary action. I would like to recognize one of our Nation’s heroes today.

Navy LT Kristen Trindle is a member of my team in the Senate, where she does excellent work as my deputy national security adviser, after starting 6 years ago as my intern.

I know that Lieutenant Trindle would be too humble to sit beside me today if she had any idea about what I

am going to say. But last year she took a leave of absence from her Senate duties to deploy with the Navy Reserves. That deployment took her to Kabul, the eye of the storm.

Lieutenant Trindle served as aide-de-camp to the general in charge of evacuation. Their mission: to save as many Americans and Afghan allies as possible from the advancing Taliban. Lieutenant Trindle immediately proved her worth. For weeks, she was everywhere at once, creating on-the-fly methods to screen evacuees, coordinating evacuation efforts with counterparts from four countries—even helping orphans in the chaos of the Kabul airport.

Those actions alone would have been worthy of commendation, but Lieutenant Trindle went above and beyond the call of duty. She volunteered to leave the relative safety of headquarters to lead a clandestine extraction team charged with finding and recovering Americans and Afghan allies. These dangerous rescue missions often required Lieutenant Trindle to go outside the wire to rescue highly vulnerable evacuees. She executed these missions in the dead of night, despite confirmed threats, within sight of the enemy.

Armed Taliban fighters were regularly within 100 yards of her position, beating and whipping civilians and menacing Americans. Lieutenant Trindle was unfazed by this danger. She carried on with her mission.

Lieutenant Trindle and her team rescued an astounding 961 Americans and Afghan allies. That group included young kids, pregnant women, injured civilians, as well as high-ranking generals, helicopter pilots, translators—even an Afghan Supreme Court justice. Suffice it to say, many of these evacuees would be in jail, or worse, if Lieutenant Trindle and her team hadn’t been there.

At this time, my staff in Washington and Arkansas were working around the clock to evacuate American citizens. Two of those Americans, a married couple, had visited Afghanistan for a wedding right before being trapped behind enemy lines. They made a harrowing journey through Taliban checkpoints to reach Kabul, where they got stuck for days, unable to get to the airport.

They called my office’s evacuation hotline for help, and we guided them as far as we could—to the chaos of the airport gate—while we updated the coordination cell just beyond the barricade. Suddenly, Lieutenant Trindle appeared. You can find the cell phone videos of that nighttime rescue online. The Americans were screaming for help. The Taliban fighters were savagely attacking civilians nearby. Then, over the roar and din of the crowd came the calm, resolute voice of Lieutenant Trindle, saying, “She’s with me.” That couple is now home in America, in safety. Lieutenant Trindle was with them.

The Nation has awarded Lieutenant Trindle the Bronze Star for her actions

during the evacuation. I had the great honor of presenting that medal to her earlier today.

As the official account of Lieutenant Trindle’s actions note, she “achieved 100% mission success in the face of unparalleled chaos.” I would add that Lieutenant Trindle met “unparalleled chaos” with unparalleled courage. She deserves every bit this high honor, and she deserves her country’s sincere gratitude.

Thank you very much, Kristen.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The senior Senator from Ohio.

Mr. BROWN. Madam President, I thank both her and Senator COTTON for their service to our country.

ULYSSES S. GRANT

Madam President, I know the vote is imminent, but I wanted to also echo his words on Ulysses S. Grant.

History was not always kind to Grant, as a general and as a President. With the publication of Ron Chernow’s book on Grant, many of us and many historians and many citizens changed their views on Grant as a very important general and a very important President, who did mostly the right things on race after the Civil War. And if he could have served another term or two, our country would look very different, in terms of race and in terms of the structure, in terms of the Black codes and Jim Crow and structural racism that we have seen in this country.

I just wanted to call to the Senate’s attention, Senator BLUNT and I have a resolution—it may be hotlined later today, I believe—in commendation, thanking President Grant, honoring the life and legacy of U.S. Grant and the commemoration of his 200th birthday. So I also wanted to add those comments.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant executive clerk (Alaina Skalski) proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

CONFIRMATIONS

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, we have just gotten some very good news, and that is that the Senate has confirmed the U.S. attorneys and U.S. marshals who had been blocked for quite a long time. It is a good thing that our Republican colleagues finally stopped their indefensible obstruction of qualified U.S. attorneys and marshals. These nominees are vital to keeping our communities safe and secure, and they should never have been held up for leverage in partisan games.

The nominees are vital to keeping our communities safe and secure. After months of waiting, communities in Georgia and Ohio and Nevada and Minnesota and New Hampshire and other States are finally getting the security

they need with confirmed U.S. attorneys. So I am very glad that this has finally, finally happened. It took too long, but now it is done.

I yield the floor.

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The senior assistant executive clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 800, Sherilyn Peace Garnett, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California.

Charles E. Schumer, Cory A. Booker, Tammy Baldwin, Patrick J. Leahy, Patty Murray, Tina Smith, Sheldon Whitehouse, John W. Hickenlooper, Gary C. Peters, Benjamin L. Cardin, Jeanne Shaheen, Jon Tester, Richard J. Durbin, Catherine Cortez Masto, Mazie Hirono, Amy Klobuchar, Maria Cantwell.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Sherilyn Peace Garnett, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) are necessarily absent.

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 64, nays 34, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 138 Ex.]

YEAS—64

Baldwin	Hassan	Romney
Bennet	Heinrich	Rosen
Blumenthal	Hickenlooper	Rounds
Booker	Hirono	Sanders
Brown	Kaine	Schatz
Burr	Kelly	Schumer
Cantwell	King	Shaheen
Capito	Klobuchar	Sinema
Cardin	Leahy	Smith
Carpenter	Lujan	Stabenow
Casey	Manchin	Tester
Collins	Markey	Tillis
Coons	McConnell	Toomey
Cornyn	Menendez	Van Hollen
Cortez Masto	Merkley	Warner
Duckworth	Murkowski	Warnock
Durbin	Murray	Warren
Ernst	Ossoff	Whitehouse
Feinstein	Padilla	Wicker
Gillibrand	Peters	Young
Graham	Portman	
Grassley	Reed	

NAYS—34

Barrasso	Daines	Lee
Blackburn	Fischer	Lummis
Blunt	Hagerty	Marshall
Boozman	Hawley	Moran
Braun	Hoehn	Paul
Cassidy	Hyde-Smith	Risch
Cotton	Inhofe	Rubio
Cramer	Johnson	Sasse
Crapo	Kennedy	
Cruz	Lankford	

Scott (FL)	Shelby	Thune
Scott (SC)	Sullivan	Tuberville

NOT VOTING—2

Murphy	Wyden
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The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HICKENLOOPER). On this vote, the yeas are 64, the nays 34.

The motion is agreed to.

The Senator from Wyoming.

ENERGY

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I come to the floor today to talk about the need for more American energy.

Since his first day in office, Joe Biden has been on a war—an all-out war—against American energy.

In his very first week in office, he stopped all new leases of oil and gas on public lands. That was completely illegal for the President to do that. A few months later, a Federal court told the President that what he had done was illegal.

The law states that the American people may explore for energy on Federal lands, and the law calls for ways that it can be done. So here we are now, 15 months into the Biden administration, and, finally, Joe Biden has grudgingly agreed to follow the law. He is going to sell a bare minimum of leases to obey the court order.

So how much is a bare minimum? Well, for the entire State of Utah—my neighboring State—they are only offering one single parcel to the entire State. And at the same time, Joe Biden is raising the cost of American energy production to the point that he is raising Federal royalty rates on the energy produced on that Federal land by 50 percent.

When we produce less American energy, the American people end up paying more for the energy they use. This is Joe Biden's economy in a nutshell, the economy that has given us the highest cost inflation in 40 years.

In the last hundred years, no President has ever raised these royalty fees for producing American energy until Joe Biden. It just shows that when it comes to energy, Joe Biden is further to the left of any previous American President.

So who is going to pay for these higher fees on Joe Biden's attack on American energy? People understand it. They know that they are going to be the ones who are going to have to pay for it, and often it is the people who can least afford it in our home States and across the country.

These higher costs for American energy—thanks to Joe Biden—are going to be paid for by working families, people who are already struggling to keep up and falling further behind in Joe Biden's economy. Producing less, raising costs—it is the perfect recipe for more inflation.

As I was coming down to the floor, I walked by a TV screen. The bottom screen shot said: "Joe Biden's approval rating hits an alltime low." It seems to be happening all the time, week after week, month after month, continuing

to fall in the polls because the American people are distressed and in pain over what this President and what the Democrats in the House and the Senate are doing to the people of this great country. Doing the bare minimum, this President may satisfy the courts, but it is not enough to satisfy or save struggling families.

To stop this inflation nightmare, we need a long-term commitment to producing more American energy. Energy companies aren't going to invest if they think—and Joe Biden tells them and threatens them—that he wants to shut them down tomorrow. That is exactly, though, what he continues to talk about doing.

So just last week, after the President gave a speech and said: Well, we need to at least do these leases, his climate czar, Gina McCarthy—I guess she must really be the one who is running the show down there in the White House. This is after the President of the United States made a speech about what he says we are going to do, you know. "Pay no attention," she says, "to the President." She said he is "absolutely committed to not moving forward with additional drilling on public lands." Who is calling the shots? She said: "We had no choice but to follow the court ruling."

Then they asked the Press Secretary. She said last week: "We are going to continue to fight this court [ruling]"—continue to fight—"that is forcing our hand."

They are going to continue to fight the American people all the way to the ballot box in November, where the American people say, we have had enough of this stuff.

Then there is Joe Biden's climate czar, John Kerry, former Member of this body, former Secretary of State. Here is just a couple of things that he has had to say recently. He said, "We have to put the [natural gas] industry on notice." He said, "You've got [no more than] six years, eight years, no more than 10 years," he said. He said, "by 2030 in the United States, we will not have coal plants." He says, "We will have to be phasing out coal plants five times faster" than we are doing now.

These are people who are not committed to affordable energy. These are people who are not committed to the fight against inflation. These are people who are not committed to the American people and the American families who go to work every day, try to put food on the table, try to get their kids to school. Oh, no.

And what does John Kerry, then—who does he have to praise? Well, he praised the energy policy of the State of California. Which State has the highest energy cost in America? California. That is the Biden administration telling the American people, we want you to be like California. We want you to pay even more than you are paying now.

Joe Biden and the environmental extremist who the President obeys are